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FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5367
INFO RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS PRIORITY
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 0461
RUEHFR/UNESCO PARIS PRIORITY
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UNCLAS MONTEVIDEO 000139

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DEPT ALSO FOR IO/UNESCO (CHRISTINA NOVO), IO/PPC (RICHARD WILBUR) AND EB/TPP/MTA (LINDSAY CHASON)

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: URUGUAY UPDATE ON UNESCO CONVENTION ON CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS

REF: A. STATE 198851
[1](#)B. STATE 20450

[1](#)1. (U) This telegram responds to action request in paragraph 2 of ref A.

[1](#)2. (SBU) The Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions adopted last October in Paris is not on Uruguay's legislative agenda. The National Congress ends its recess on March 1. We are told that it is unlikely that the Convention will be debated in Congress any time soon, since it has an already extensive backlog of pending domestic and international legislation.

[1](#)3. (SBU) The Convention has received virtually no attention in the press and it has not been a subject of public debate. It is possible that the media will focus more on UNESCO issues when Montevideo hosts six workshops related to the International Forum on Social Science-Policy Nexus on February 21-23 (ref B). Embassy doubts that a public information campaign would be useful and risks a perception of outside interference since the GOU has privately told us on several occasions that it is decidedly in favor of the Convention.
Nealon